

HANDBOOK
OF THE
GEOGRAPHY AND STATISTICS
OF THE CHURCH.

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Innocent III. founded a metropolis in the beginning of 1212 at Philippi in Macedonia, so celebrated in the Acts of the Apostles, and placed several bishopricks under the jurisdiction of its archbishop, the names of which, however, are unknown and enigmatical; they are called Eleutheropolis, Casiropolis, Polistrii, Vilkii, and Moreni, which in Le Quien's opinion are perhaps the following places; Aletryopolis, or Alectoroso, Cæsaropolis, Polystilius, Belicia, and Smolenorum. The Bishoprick of Valaca, which immediately follows Philippi, is probably the place called Cavala.⁶

§ 410. Serræ (Seres) in Macedonia was a metropolis without bishopricks about the year 1212.¹

The Church
Provinces of
Serræ,
Thiva, Sa-
lonichi, and
Veria.

But Thiva (the ancient Thebes) had already had its first archbishop in 1207 and its second in 1210, the former of whom received in 1208 a suffragan in the Bishop of Castri (Castoria), and another in 1210 in the Bishop of the unknown Zaratoria. But a second bishop of either bishoprick does not occur.²

Salonichi, known from the Acts of the Apostles as Thessalonica, had its archbishop a few years earlier. He was chosen in 1205. And two other archbishops rapidly succeeded him in the time of Innocent III. To this province belonged merely the Bishoprick of Chitro (Citrum) since 1208.³

A year afterwards (1206) the neighbouring Verisia, or more probably Veria, received an Archbishop to whom the Bishops of the unknown places, Rusiora, Apta, and and Kiptala, were given as suffragans. And to these the Church of Medea was also added in 1210.⁴

⁶ Ib., p. 1045, sqq.

¹ A second Archbishop of Serræ is not mentioned. Le Quien iii., 1073.

² Ib., p. 1081, sqq.

³ Ib., p. 1089—1095.

⁴ Ib., p. 1101, sqq.